

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This is responsive to the final Office Action issued on November 7, 2003.

Claim 1-27 were rejected as anticipated by Masui. Each independent claim is being amended to clarify the claimed relationship between the correction circuitry and the other claimed elements.

Claim 1 is illustrative. Referring to Figure 4, sensing circuitry (which may include the comparator 46) receives a sense input signal from the power device 42, over a direct circuit path which in this embodiment includes a resistance 70. The circuit path may also include a gating device such as the diode 60. The correction circuitry 160 is included in the circuit path, that is, the sense input signal is received by the comparator 164, which switches an FET 162 to modify the sense input signal on the circuit path for preventing the sense input signal on the circuit path from including spurious information from the power device.

Claim 1 is similarly readable on the embodiment of Figure 5, including its correction circuitry 190.

As thus amended, the independent claims are no longer readable on Masui. The Examiner has defined the "sensing circuitry" in Masui as including the elements 1, 2, 14, 15, 16 and 17. Therefore, the "circuit path from the power device to the sensing circuitry" would be the connection between the diode 8 and the power device 6. The Examiner has defined the "correction circuitry" as being the elements 1, 2 and 10-16, which are not included in such circuit path and cannot affect a signal on such circuit path.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 1, 9, 17, and 20 are submitted to be patentably distinguishable from the prior art. In addition, each dependent claim is considered to include patentable subject matter, for reasons already of record.

In view of the foregoing remarks, allowance of claims 1-27 is requested.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, at (703) 872-9306 on March 8, 2004:

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March 8, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures